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## The Eastern Iowa DX Bulletin

Number 219, April 26, 2024

#### Craig Fastenow, KØCF, Editor

This bulletin is a compilation of **currently active** DX operations (or those that will become active within the current week) from recent issues of the three DX bulletins listed below and other sources. Credit for the source is given at the end of each article.

Articles are ordered by the entity's callsign prefix from the ARRL DXCC Entities List. Callsigns used are in **bold** with dates of operation highlighted in red. Clickable links are provided for QSL and other information wherever possible. Note that articles may be edited for grammar, language, style and accuracy and will remain in *The Bulletin* while active; articles that are announcements of ongoing operations, or that have no specified end date, will be removed after three weeks.

Also included is a **Propagation** section, updated daily; and a **Contest Calendar** of upcoming popular contests.

DX News items are courtesy of:

The ARRL DX Bulletin

The bulletin is available at <a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>

425 DX News, A.R.I. DX Bulletin (425DXN)

Edited by Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ & Valeria Pregliasco, IK1ADH

425 DX News Home Page: https://www.425dxn.org/

425 DX News Google Group: https://groups.google.com/g/425eng

DX Newsletter (DXNL)

Edited by Andreas Salder, DK5ON

A weekly service of DARC Committee "DX", <a href="http://www.darcdxhf.de">http://www.darcdxhf.de</a>

Propagation data is from:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's

Space Weather Prediction Center

Dr. Tony Phillips' <u>SpaceWeather.com</u>, used by permission

Contest data courtesy of the WA7BNM Contest Calendar

#### **DX News**

**3W, VIET NAM.** Alex, KU1CW is QRV as **3W9A** and has been active on 15 meters using FT8 around 1800z. QSL to <u>KU1CW</u>.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 15 April 11, 2024] (0412-0503)

**5X, UGANDA.** Jack, NP2OR (ex 5X7JD), is currently active as **5X3L** from the village Kayabwe on the equator. He will be joined by Don 7Q6M (K6ZO) on April 25th. QRV until May 10th while preparing some local newcomers for their license exams. QSL via 5X3L. -[DXNL # 2403 April 24, 2024] (0426-0510)

**7Q, MALAWI.** Don, K6ZO, and Bill, KC4D, continue to operate as **7Q6M** and **7Q7WW** respectively until May. For QSL information see <u>7Q6M</u> and <u>7Q7WW</u> on qrz.com. -[DXNL # 2401 April 10, 2024] (0412-0503)

**9H, MALTA.** Special callsign **9H6HE** is being used by the Malta Amateur Radio League (9H1MRL) to celebrate the swearing in of Dr. Myriam Spiteri Debono as Malta's 11th President. Look for activity from April 15th to May 31st, on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters SSB, CW and digital modes. Paper QSL cards will not be available; QSL via LoTW. -[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0419-0531)

**A2, BOTSWANA.** Remo, HB9SHD will be QRV as **A25SHD** from April 30th to May 13th. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands. QSL via LoTW.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 17 April 25, 2024] (0426-0517)

**A5, BHUTAN.** Janusz, SP9FIH, and Leszek, SP6CIK, sign **A52P** and **A52CI** respectively from April 19th to May 4th. QRV from 3000m ASL on 40-6m (CW, SSB, digital modes). For more information see: <a href="https://a5.dxpeditions.org/">https://a5.dxpeditions.org/</a>. QSL for A52P via <a href="ClubLog's OQRS">ClubLog's OQRS</a>; A52CI via <a href="https://a5.dxpeditions.org/">SP6CIK</a> or <a href="ClubLog's OQRS">ClubLog's OQRS</a>.

-[DXNL # 2402 April 17, 2024] (0419-0503)

**CEØY, EASTER I.** Ben DL6FBL, Win DK9IP and Lutz DM6EE will be active as **3GØYA** from April 18th to May 6th on their DXpedition to Easter Island (SA-001). They will operate SSB, FT8 and CW on 160-6 meters. More information can be found on <a href="https://www.qrz.com/db/3G0YA">https://www.qrz.com/db/3G0YA</a>. QSL via <a href="ClubLog's OQRS">ClubLog's OQRS</a> (preferred), or via <a href="DJ4MX">DJ4MX</a>. -[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0419-0510)

**CEØY, EASTER ISLAND.** A group of operators are QRV as **3GØYA** until May 6th. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via <u>DJ4MX</u>.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0510)

**CE9, ANTARCTICA.** Igor, RQ8K is QRV as **RI1ANE** from the Base Progress, IOTA AN-016, until May 2025. Activity is in his spare time. QSL via RN3RQ. -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0510)

**CN, MOROCCO.** Special event station **5F16SIA** is QRV until April 28th to mark the 16th International Agriculture Exhibit. QSL via LoTW. -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 17 April 25, 2024] (0426-0503)

**CT, PORTUGAL.** Special event stations **CS2GPDX** (continental Portugal), **CR2GPDX** (Azores) and **CR3GPDX** (Madeira) will be active on May 1st – 31st to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Portuguese DX Group. A large number of certificates and trophies will be available, see <a href="https://www.qrz.com/db/CS2GPDX">https://www.qrz.com/db/CS2GPDX</a> for detailed information. QSL only via LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0426-0531)

**DL, GERMANY.** Celebrating World Amateur Radio Day, DARC special event callsign **DA24WARD** will be active on April 1st-30th. All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau; direct cards via <u>DL2VFR</u>.
-[425DXN # 1717 March 30, 2024] (0329-0503)

**DXCC TOP TWENTY.** Here are the top 20 entities on ClubLog's "DXCC Most Wanted" list as of April 26, 2024:

```
1. P5
         DPRK (North Korea) 11. 3Y/B
                                      Bouvet Island
2. BS7H
         Scarborough Reef
                           12. ZS8
                                      Prince Edward & Marion Islands
CEØX
         San Felix Islands 13. KH4
                                      Midway Island
4. BV9P
                           14. VKØM
         Pratas Island
                                     Macquarie Island
                                      Saint Peter And Paul Rocks
5. KH7K
         Kure Island
                           15. PYØS
         Johnston Island
6. KH3
                           16. KP5
                                      Desecheo Island
7. FT/G
         Glorioso Island
                           17. VPØS
                                      South Sandwich Islands
8. 3Y/P
         Peter 1 Island
                           18. KH5
                                      Palmyra & Jarvis Islands
                           19. ZL9
                                      New Zealand Subantarctic Islands
9. FT5/X Kerguelen Island
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10. YVØ Aves Island 20. FK/C Chesterfield Islands For the complete list, see <a href="https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php">https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php</a> -[KØCF April 26, 2024] (0426-0510)

- **E6, NIUE.** Gavin, ZL3GAV will be QRV as **E6SP** from April 16th to 28th. Activity will be holiday style on 160 to 6 meters using SSB, SSTV, FT8, and FT4 in DXpedition mode, with the possibility of CW and RTTY. QSL via LoTW (preferred), or direct to <u>EA5GL</u>.
  -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 15 April 11, 2024] (0412-0503)
- **EA, SPAIN.** Celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Union de Radioaficionados Espanoles (URE), Spanish amateurs are allowed to replace their Normal prefix from May 1st to May 31st as follows: EA stations can use AO#75, EB stations can use AN#75, and EC stations can use AM#75, where "#" is the digit of their call area. For example, EA1FMJ will use AO175FMJ, EC5BUH will use AM575BUH, EB7KA will use AN775KA.

  -[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0426-0517)
- **EA, SPAIN.** The Union de Radioaficionados Espanoles, Spain's IARU member society, was founded on April 1, 1949. Celebrating URE's 75th anniversary, a month-long activity will take place from April 1st to 30th. Look for AO75URE and 18 other special stations representing the Autonomous Communities and Autonomous Cities of the country:

A075AN Andalucia
A075AR Aragon
A075CA Cantabria
A075CA Cantabria
A075CA Cantabria
A075CA Cantabria
A075CA Cantabria
A075CA Cantabria

A075CL Castilla y Leon A075LR La Rioja A075CM Castilla—La Mancha A075MA Madrid

A075CT Cataluna A075MC Melilla and Ceuta, EA9

A075CV Comunidad Valenciana A075MU Murcia A075EU Euskadi i.e. Basque Country A075NA Navarra

A075EX Extremadura A075PA Principado de Asturias

In addition, **CQ75URE** will be active from Portugal. A large number of awards will be available: see <a href="https://75aniversario.ure.es">https://75aniversario.ure.es</a> for detailed information, log search and OQRS (to be activated after April 30).

-[425DXN # 1716 March 23, 2024] (0329-0503)

- **ER, MOLDOVA.** Special callsign **ER3ØARM** celebrates the 30th anniversary of the Amateur Radio Society of Moldova (ER1KAA). Look for activity from March 20th to April 30th. QSL via the bureau, direct to <a href="mailto:ER3ØARM"><u>ER3ØARM</u></a>, and LoTW. -[425DXN # 1716 March 23, 2024] (0322-0503)
- **F, FRANCE.** Dominique, F5PTI will be active as **TM5ØØNA** on April 14th-28th to memorialize the 500th anniversary since the first European explorer, Giovanni da Verrazzano, visited nowadays New York City area and named it New Angouleme. QSL via F5PTI.
- -[425DXN # 1718 April 6, 2024] (0412-0503)
- **F, FRANCE.** Special callsign **TM83JO** will be active for fifteen days from April 16th, when the Olympic flame is lit in Greece, until July 26th, when the flame ends its journey by lighting the Olympic cauldron at the Paris 2024 Opening Ceremony of. Look for activity on 80-6 meters SSB, CW and digital modes, as well as via QO-100. QSL via the bureau, LoTW, eQSL.
- -[425DXN # 1718 April 6, 2024] (0412-0728)
- **FO, FRENCH POLYNESIA.** Hiroyuki, JI1JKW is QRV as **FO/JI1JKW** from Bora Bora (OC-067) until April 30th. Activity is holiday style on 40 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL to JI1JKW.
- -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 17 April 25, 2024] (0426-0503)
- **FO/A, AUSTRAL I.** Jeff, K5WE and Craig, W5CCP will be active as **TX7W** from Raivavae (OC-114), Austral Islands on April 16th-30th. They will operate mainly CW and FT8 (multi

stream mode, not F/H), with some SSB, RTTY and FT4, on 160-6 meters. Depending upon a reliable Internet connection, logs will be uploaded to ClubLog daily, and ClubLog's Livestream will be enabled. See <a href="https://k5we.com/tx7w/">https://k5we.com/tx7w/</a> for more information and updates. QSL via <a href="ClubLog's OQRS">ClubLog's OQRS</a> (preferred), LoTW, or direct to <a href="K5WE">K5WE</a>. -[425DXN # 1711 February 17, 2024] (0412-0503)

- **FY, FRENCH GUIANA.** Operators at club station FY5KE are QRV as **T06ØCSG** each weekend in April, May, and June to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Guiana Space Centre. See detailed information at <u>T06ØCSG</u>. QSL direct to <u>FY5KE</u>.
  -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 14 April 4, 2024] (0405-0630)
- **G, ENGLAND.** Joining Guglielmo Marconi's 150th anniversary celebrations, the Cornish Radio Amateur Club (GX4CRC) will be active as **GB15ØGM** from April 27th until July 27th. This activity participates in the "Marconi 150 Award", organized by the Associazione Radioamatori Italiani (ARI) and the Coordinamento Stazioni Marconiane Italiane (CSMI) under the patronage of the Guglielmo Marconi Foundation. See IR2GMCL below. QSL via eQSL.
- -[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0426-0728)
- **GM, SCOTLAND.** A group of 13 operators will operate as **GS3PYE** from the Isle of Mull (EU-008) from April 27th until May 3rd on 80-10m and via QO-100. QSL via <u>ClubLog's OQRS</u>.
- -[DXNL # 2403 April 24, 2024] (0426-0503)
- **GM, SCOTLAND.** Mike, **GM5AUG** and Kevan, **2MØWMG** plan to activate the following islands beginning April 27th until May 3rd, depending on weather conditions: Barra, Orasaigh, Eriskay, South Uist, Benbecula, and North Uist (all EU-010). For updates see <a href="https://www.qrz.com/db/GM5AUG">https://www.qrz.com/db/GM5AUG</a>.
- -[DXNL # 2403 April 24, 2024] (0426-0503)
- **HB, SWITZERLAND.** Celebrating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi, members of the USKA's Valais/Wallis Section will be active as **HB15ØGM** between April and December. QSL via the bureau to <u>HB9Y</u>.
  -[425DXN # 1719 April 13, 2024] (0412-0503)
- HI, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. Special callsign HI18ØRD celebrates the 180th anniversary since the Dominican Republic declared its independence from Haiti (February 27, 1844). Look for activity on all bands and modes beginning February 27th until April 30th. Some 25 operators from five radio clubs will be part of the event. A certificate will be available, see <a href="https://independencia2024.org/">https://independencia2024.org/</a> for information.
  -[425DXN # 1713 March 2, 2024] (0301-0503)
- **HR, HONDURAS.** K6VHF signs **HR9/K6VHF** from Roatan Island (NA-057) from April 23rd to 30th on 160-6m, including 60m. QSL via <u>ClubLog's OQRS</u>, LoTW. -[DXNL # 2402 April 17, 2024] (0419-0503)
- **HR, HONDURAS.** John, AD8J will be QRV as **HR9/AD8J** from Roatan, IOTA NA-057, beginning April 14th. Activity will be on 80 to 6 meters using CW, FT8, FT4, and possibly SSB. QSL via LoTW.
- -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 15 April 11, 2024] (0412-0503)
- **HV, VATICAN.** Members of ARI Civitavecchia, ARI Roma, ARI Perugia and ARI YOTA Italia will be active as **HV9TVM** on April 27th, from 0600 to 1200 UTC. They will operate CW and SSB on 40 and 20 meters, and via QO-100 (CW, SSB and FT8). HV9TVM is a permanent amateur radio station located in the building that housed the first broadcasting center of Vatican Radio, built by Guglielmo Marconi and inaugurated in 1931 by Pope Pius XI. Since 1995, the building has housed Vatican Radio's Technical and Historical Museum. QSL via <a href="IKØPHU">IKØPHU</a>.
- -[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0426-0503)

- **I, ITALY.** Commemorating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi, members of ARI's Board of Directors will be active as **IR2GMCL** from April 28th to July 27th during the "Marconi 150 Award". See <a href="https://www.qrz.com/db/IR2GMCL">https://www.qrz.com/db/IR2GMCL</a> for the rules. Paper QSL cards will not be provided; electronic QSLs may be downloaded from the HamAward platform.
- -[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0426-0728)
- I, ITALY. Look for IYØCG, IYØGA (Sardinia), IYØIMD, IYØMMR, IYØORP, IYØTC, IY1MR, IY1SM, IY1SP, IY1TO, IY4FGM, IY5PIS, IY6GM and IY7M to be active on April 27th, the International Marconi Day. These stations are affiliated to the "Coordinamento Stazioni Marconiane Italiane" which gathers amateur radio stations operating from historic Marconi sites located in Italy (<a href="http://csmi.altervista.org/wp/">http://csmi.altervista.org/wp/</a>). QSL via operators' instructions.
- -[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0426-0503)
- I, ITALY. Special callsign II1GM will be used on April 1st-30th to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi. Various operators will be QRV from different call areas (e.g. II1GM/1, II1GM/2, II1GM/ISØ, II1GM/IT9, etc.). See <a href="https://www.qrz.com/db/II1GM">https://www.qrz.com/db/II1GM</a> for more information. QSL via eQSL, or direct to <a href="IK1VHX">IK1VHX</a>. -[425DXN # 1717 March 30, 2024] (0329-0503)
- **I, ITALY.** Celebrating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi, members of ARI Montegrappa (IQ3RP) will be active as **II3GM** from April 15th to May 15th. QSL via operator's instructions.
- -[425DXN # 1719 April 13, 2024] (0412-0517)
- **I, ITALY.** Members of ARI Venezia (IQ3VE) will be active as **IR3POLO** from April 1st to June 30th. The special callsign commemorates the 700th anniversary since the death of Marco Polo, the Venetian merchant and explorer who travelled through Asia along the Silk Road (1271-1295). All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau. -[425DXN # 1716 March 23, 2024] (0329-0630)
- I, ITALY. Special callsign II4CLM will be active on April 1st-30th in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi. Joining the celebrations will be IY4FGM (the amateur radio station at the Guglielmo Marconi Foundation) and the club stations of the 17 ARI branches in the Emilia-Romagna region (namely IQ4AD, IQ4AX, IQ4BQ, IQ4DJ, IQ4FA, IQ4FC, IQ4FD, IQ4FE, IQ4FH, IQ4FJ, IQ4HI, IQ4LH, IQ4PI, IQ4RA, IQ4RE, IQ4RN and IQ4SC). Further information, including real time log search, can be found on <a href="https://www.150marconi.org/">https://www.150marconi.org/</a>. QSL via the bureau. -[425DXN # 1715 March 16, 2024] (0329-0503)
- **I, ITALY.** Members of ARI Sondrio (IQ2UL) will operate special event station **II2AUT** from March 25th to May 7th for the World Autism Awareness Day. Back in 2007 the United Nations General Assembly declared April 2nd as World Autism Awareness Day to highlight the need to help improve the quality of life of autistic individuals so they can lead full and meaningful lives as an integral part of society. QSOs will be uploaded to ClubLog. QSL via the bureau and eQSL.
- -[425DXN # 1715 March 16, 2024] (0322-0510)
- **JA, JAPAN.** Look for Mitsu, **JE1HXZ/6** to be active from Yonaguni Island (AS-024) from April 26th to May 5th. He will operate CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8/FT4 on 160-6 meters. Bureau cards can be requested by email (details on qrz.com). QSL via LoTW (preferred) or direct to <u>JE1HXZ</u>.
- -[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0426-0510)
- **JA, JAPAN.** Sam, 7K1EAS, will be QRV as **JR6/7K1EAS** from Yonaguni Island (AS-024) from April 30th to May 2nd. He will operate FT8 and FT4 on 15, 12 and 10 meters. QSL via <u>ClubLog's OQRS</u>.
- -[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0426-0510)

JA, JAPAN. Take, JI3DST will be active again from the Miyako Islands (AS-079) from April 24th to June 26th. Callsigns to be used are JS6RRR, JS6RRR/6, JI3DST/6, JJ5RBH/6 and JR8YLY/6 on SSB and CW, as well as JS6RRR/p, JI3DST/p, JJ5RBH/p and JR8YLY/p on FT8/FT4. QSOs will be made available for ClubLog and LoTW Matching on the IOTA website.
-[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0419-0630)

**JD1/M, MINAMI TORISHIMA.** Koutarou, JP1IHD, is going to put Chichijima (OC-073) on the air as **JD1BQP** from April 22nd until May 3rd. QSL via <u>JD1BQP</u>.
-[DXNL # 2402 April 17, 2024] (0419-0503)

**JD1/O, OGASAWARA.** Harry, JG7PSJ will be active again as **JD1BMH** from Chichijima (AS-031) Ogasawara from April 22nd to May 4th. He will operate CW, SSB and RTTY on 40-10 meters. Log search on <a href="http://jg7psj.starfree.jp/jd1bmh/">http://jg7psj.starfree.jp/jd1bmh/</a>. He does not use LoTW or PayPal. QSL via the bureau to JD1BMH, or direct to <a href="https://jG7PSJ">JG7PSJ</a>. -[425DXN # 1718 April 6, 2024] (0419-0503)

**JD1/O, OGASAWARA.** Kou, JP1IHD will be active again as **JD1BQP** from Chichijima (AS-031) Ogasawara from April 22nd to May 3rd. He plans to operate SSB on 15-6 meters. He will upload his log to LoTW and ClubLog. QSL via the bureau to JD1BQP, or direct to JP1IHD.

-[425DXN # 1718 April 6, 2024] (0419-0503)

**JW, SVALBARD.** Knut, LA9DSA will be active as **JW9DSA** from Svalbard from April 29th to May 5th. He will operate mainly SSB, with plans to go portable for SOTA and possibly also POTA activations. QSL only via LoTW or eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0426-0510)

**KH9, WAKE I.** Tom, NL7RR is QRV as **KH9/NL7RR** until May 15th. Activity is generally on 20 meters using SSB around 0700z. QSL direct to NL7RR.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0517)

**KHØ, MARIANA IS.** JA6VQA, as WHØB, along with JA6REX and JH6HZH will be QRV from April 25th to 30th, using mainly FT8 and FT4 with some CW and SSB, on 160 to 6 meters. Listen for them as **WHØB**, **KHØ/JA6REX** and **KHØ/W6HZH**, respectively. QSL WHØB via LoTW, eQSL and direct to <u>JA6VQA</u>. QSL KHØ/JA6REX and KHØ/W6HZH via LoTW, eQSL and <u>ClubLog's OQRS</u>.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 11 March 14, 2024] (0419-0503)

**OE, AUSTRIA.** Sylvia, OE5YYN will be active as **OE2ØSOTA** from May 1st until October 31st to mark the 20th anniversary since Austria joined the Summits on the Air program. A certificate will be available, see <a href="https://www.qrz.com/db/OE20SOTA">https://www.qrz.com/db/OE20SOTA</a>. -[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0426-0517)

**OE, AUSTRIA.** In celebration of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi (April 25, 1874), Enrico, OE7AFT (IZ4AFL) will be active as **OE15ØGM** on April 19th-28th. He will operate CW only. QSL via LoTW, or direct to <u>OE7AFT</u> (SASE or USD/EUR not required).

-[425DXN # 1718 April 6, 2024] (0419-0503)

OJØ, MARKET REEF. Bjorn LA1UW, Tor LA3WAA, Kristoffer LBØVG, and Stian LB5SH will be active from Market Reef (EU-053) from April 27th to May 4th. OJØT will be their main callsign, but they will also use OJØ/LA1UW, OJØ/LA3WAA, OJØ/LBØVG and OJØ/LB5SH from time to time. They will Operate SSB, CW and FT8 on 160-6 meters with up to four stations. See <a href="https://oj0.no/">https://oj0.no/</a> for more information. QSLs via <a href="EA5GL">EA5GL</a> and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1719 April 13, 2024] (0426-0503)

**OK, CZECH REPUBLIC.** Sixteen special event stations, representing the teams competing in the 87th Ice Hockey World Championship to be held in the Czech Republic (May 10th-26th), will be active from April 27th to May 26th: **OL87DL**, **OL87F**, **OL87G**, **OL87HB**, **OL87LA**, **OL87OE**, **OL87OH**, **OL87OK**, **OL87OM**, **OL87OZ**, **OL87SM**, **OL87SP**, **OL87UN**, **OL87VE**, **OL87W** and **OL87YL**. Look for activity on 160-10 meters SSB, CW and digital modes. Three certificates will be available: see <a href="https://ol87whc.cz/">https://ol87whc.cz/</a> for information. Paper QSLs will not be issued, but electronic QSLs are via LoTW and eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0426-0524)

**OK, CZECH REPUBLIC.** In celebration of World Amateur Radio Day (April 18th), Martin, OK1RR and Slavek, OK1TN will be active as **OL1WARD** on April 1st-30th. They will operate CW only on the HF bands. QSL via LoTW; paper cards will not be available. -[425DXN # 1715 March 16, 2024] (0329-0503)

**ON, BELGIUM.** Members of Club Radio Durnal (ON4CRD) will be active as **OR9ØAL** on May 1st-31st. The special callsign marks 90 years since the death of Albert I, King of the Belgians, who died in a mountaineering accident at the age of 58. QSL via the bureau. -[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0426-0531)

**ON, BELGIUM.** Special event station **OT2Ø24EPIC** is QRV until May 19th to promote the seventh edition of the Antwerp Port Epic cycling race. QSL via operators' instructions. -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0517)

**ON, BELGIUM.** Special event stations **OR24WARD** and **OP24WARD** will be active on all bands and modes on April 1st-30th in celebration of World Amateur Radio Day (April 18th). A certificate will be available, see <a href="https://www.uba.be/en/hf/awards/uba-awards">https://www.uba.be/en/hf/awards/uba-awards</a>. QSL via <a href="ClubLog's OQRS">ClubLog's OQRS</a>, or via eQSL. -[425DXN # 1715 March 16, 2024] (0329-0503)

**OX, GREENLAND.** Bo, OZ1DJJ will be active again as **OX3LX** from Greenland from April 26th to May 9th. In his spare time, he will operate FT8, RTTY and CW from Kangerlussuaq (grid GP60), Nuuk (grid GP44) and Paamiut (grid GP51). QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW and ClubLog. QSL via OZØJ.

-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0426-0510)

**OZ, DENMARK.** A team of seven Belgian operators (ON1BN, ON4AWT, ON6EF, ON6VJ, ON7TA, ON7VM and ON9DJ) will be active as **5P5LI** from Lolland Island (EU-029) from April 29th to May 6th. They will operate SSB, CW and digital modes on 160-6 meters. QSL via ON6EF.

-[425DXN # 1719 April 13, 2024] (0426-0510)

**PJ4, BONAIRE.** TJ, PE10JR will be QRV as **PJ4TB** from April 13th to 28th. Activity will be on 40 to 6 meters using SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL via LoTW. -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 15 April 11, 2024] (0412-0503)

**SP, POLAND.** Marking the 25th anniversary since Poland joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, special callsign **HF25NATO** will be active from May 1st to August 31st. A certificate will be available for download on <a href="https://hf25nato.spaward.pl">https://hf25nato.spaward.pl</a>. Only 100 "limited edition QSL cards" will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis via <a href="ClubLog's OQRS">ClubLog's OQRS</a>. e-QSL via LoTW

-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0426-0517)

**SV, GREECE.** Special callsign **SZØWARD** celebrates World Amateur Radio Day by the Radio Amateur Association of Greece on April 15th-30th. Look for activity on all bands SSB, CW and digital modes. See <a href="https://sv2rck.gr/SZ0WARD">https://sv2rck.gr/SZ0WARD</a> for the certificate. QSL via the bureau and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1717 March 30, 2024] (0412-0503)

**TA, TURKEY.** In celebration of World Amateur Radio Day, members of TRAC Izmir will be active as **TC3WRD** from April 1st to 30th. A certificate will be available, see <a href="https://tadx.org/awards">https://tadx.org/awards</a>. QSL via LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1717 March 30, 2024] (0329-0503)

TT, CHAD. Six operators of the Italian DXpedition Team (Franco I1FQH, Alfeo I1HJT, Tony I2PJA, Silvano I2YSB, Angelo IK2CKR and Stefano IK2HKT) will be active as TT8RR (SSB, CW and RTTY), TT8XX (FT8) and TT8TT (callsign for QSOs via QO-100) from Chad on April 17th-30th. They will run four stations on 80-6 meters, plus one station dedicated to satellite. Operations will start on FT8 (F/H at first, and normal mode on standard frequencies when the pileup decreases), other modes will follow. The hottest period of the year approaches (temperatures expected to reach 43 degrees Celsius in the shade) and the team has already taken measures by procuring an additional backup power generator, as the on-site generator will not be able to run 24/7. See <a href="http://www.i2ysb.com/idt/">http://www.i2ysb.com/idt/</a> for more information, band plan and OQRS for direct cards included. QSL via <a href="https://www.i2ysb.com/idt/">12YSB</a>. -[425DXN # 1719 April 13, 2024] (0412-0503)

**UA, EUROPEAN RUSSIA.** A very large number of Russian stations using special prefix RP79 (where the letter P stands for "Pobeda", i.e. "victory") will be active on May 1st-9th to celebrate the 79th anniversary of the end of World War II. More information, including the list of participating stations and their QSL routes, is expected to be available on <a href="https://pobeda.srr.ru/">https://pobeda.srr.ru/</a> in due course.

-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0426-0510)

**UA, EUROPEAN RUSSIA.** Oleg, RD1A, who operated as RI41POL from aboard the vessel "Severnyy Polyus" in 2023, is now active as **RIØPOL** from the same ship. The call was previously used by Vlad, UA4WHX, in 2015. QSL via <u>RN3RQ</u>.
-[DXNL # 2403 April 24, 2024] (0426-0517)

**V4, ST. KITTS & NEVIS.** Randy, AA4RF is QRV as **V4/AA4RF** from St. Kitts (NA-104) until May 1st. In addition, he is active from several POTA references as V49T. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 17 April 25, 2024] (0426-0503)

**V5, NAMIBIA.** Gunter, DK2WH is QRV as **V51WH** near Omaruru until April 30th. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters. QSL to <a href="DK2WH">DK2WH</a>.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 15 April 11, 2024] (0412-0503)

**VE, CANADA.** Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Air Force, from April 1st to 30th amateur radio operators across Canada will be operating special event stations with special callsigns such as **VC3RCAF** and **VE3RCAF** (Ontario), **VC9RCAF** and **VE9RCAF** (New Brunswick), **VE2RCAF** (Quebec), **VE5RCAF** (Saskatchewan), **VE6RCAF** (Alberta), **VE7RCAF** (British Columbia), **VO1RCAF** (Newfoundland), **VY2RCAF** (Prince Edward Island). QSL via operators' instructions.

-[425DXN # 1717 March 30, 2024] (0329-0503)

**VU7, LAKSHADWEEP IS.** Santhilal, VU3OQK, reports that he is planning to be active as **VU7LAL** from Lakshadweep Islands (Agatti & Kavarathi) towards the end of April until May 31st. He will be on 40, 20 and 10 meters from both islands. QSL via <u>VU3OQK</u>. -[Tnx KØJGH April 13, 2024] (0426-0531)

**XW, LAOS.** Vincent, **XW4KV** is QRV from Vang Vieng until June 1st. Lately he has been active on 15 meters using FT8 around 1100z. QSL via <u>F4BKV</u>.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 12 March 21, 2024] (0322-0602)

**XX9, MACAO.** Wai, **XX9CM** is usually active on 17 meters using SSB around 1430 to 1900z. QSL direct to <u>XX9CM</u>.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0510)

YI, IRAQ. Sam, YI1YY has been QRV on 20 meters around 2340z. QSL via <a href="IK2DUW">IK2DUW</a>. [ARRL DX Bulletin # 17 April 25, 2024] (0426-0517)

**YJ, VANUATU.** Chris, VK2YUS will be QRV as **YJØCA** from Port Vila (OC-035) from April 27th to May 9th. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using SSB mostly between 2100 to 1000z. QSL direct to VK2YUS.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 17 April 25, 2024] (0426-0510)

**YO, ROMANIA.** Celebrating the 95th anniversary of the first amateur radio association in Romania's Arad County, special callsigns **YR95AR**, **YR95CC**, **YR95CH**, **YR95IN**, **YR95LI**, **YR95PE** and **YR95SE** will be active from February 16th until May 31st. The event is being organized by C.S. Radioclub Admira (YO2KBQ), the successor of the club that was established almost a century ago. See <a href="https://www.qrz.com/db/YR95AR">https://www.qrz.com/db/YR95AR</a> for more information.

-[425DXN # 1711 February 17, 2024] (0216-0531)

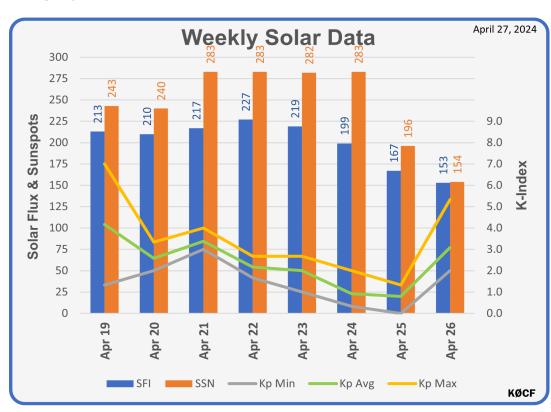
**Z8, SOUTH SUDAN.** Diya, YI1DZ is QRV as **Z81D** from Juba until May 31st. Activity is on 40 to 6 meters, and possibly 160 and 80 meters, using SSB and FT8. QSL via OM3JW. -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0531)

**ZC4, UK SOVEREIGN BASE AREAS ON CYPRUS.** Dave, G4WXJ will be QRV as **ZC4RH** from April 28th to May 9th. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL via <u>DK6SP</u>.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 17 April 25, 2024] (0426-0510)

**ZL, NEW ZEALAND.** Special event station **ZL6WG** remains active until May 31st supporting the 98th NZART conference (June 1st-2nd) at the Museum of Aeronautics in Christchurch. An award is also available. QSL only via LoTW.
-[DXNL # 2403 April 24, 2024] (0426-0531)

## Propagation (Updated daily)



The Weekly Solar Data chart plots Solar Flux Index (SFI), Sunspot number (SSN) and Planetary K-Index (Kp) for the past 8 days. With 8 Planetary K-index readings each day, only the minimum, average and maximum K-index values are plotted. **Note:** You may click here or on the chart above to see the same data for the past month.

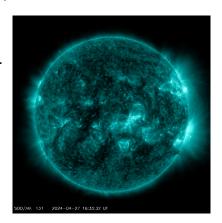
The Daily Solar Flux Index, Sunspot number, Planetary K-index, Solar Flux predictions and Solar Flare data used in this bulletin have been collected by KØCF from from the U.S. Department of Commerce's NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center.

The propagation graphs above are the creations of KØCF and are unique in space weather reporting.

Please Note: The graphs are high resolution .PNG files which you may view in greater detail using your browser's "zoom" feature. Alternatively, right click on the graph and select "Open Image in New Tab" to enlarge it, or "Save Image As..." to save it to your computer for further analysis.

NASA's current view of the Sun at a wavelength of 131 Angstroms. This wavelength shows incredible solar detail.

Click <u>here</u> or on the image to view as a full screen 48-hour video loop. It is fascinating!



### **Propagation Summary**

For the 8 day period from Friday, April 19th through yesterday, April 26th.

The average solar flux was 199, up 1 point from the previous week, with a weekly high of 227 on Monday, April 22nd, followed by a low of 153 on April 26th.

The average sunspot count was 246, up 57 from last week, peaking at 283 on Wednesday, April 24th followed by a weekly low of 154 on April 26th.

The Planetary K-index weekly average was 3.5 with a maximum of 7.0 on Friday, April 19th, resulting in strong geomagnetic storm conditions.

Solar flare activity since April 20th has been very high with 19 major flares, the largest of which was an M 3.6 event on Tuesday, April 23rd.

#### **Propagation Data**

Major solar flares, Saturday, April 20th through 1248 UTC, April 27th.

#	Date	UTC	Mag.
1	Apr 27	1235	M 2.1
2	Apr 25	1712	M 1.3
3	Apr 25	1321	M 1.0
4	Apr 25	0149	M 1.0
5	Apr 24	2259	M 2.0
6	Apr 24	2250	M 1.1

7	Apr 24	1214	M 1.4
8	Apr 24	0239	M 1.8
9	Apr 24	0029	M 1.7
10	Apr 23	1744	M 2.9
11	Apr 23	0821	M 3.0
12	Apr 23	0319	М 3.6
13	Apr 22	2116	M 1.5
14	Apr 22	1550	M 2.8
15	Apr 22	1335	M 1.6
16	Apr 22	0813	M 1.0
17	Apr 21	2152	M 3.4
18	Apr 21	1514	M 2.2
19	Apr 21	1259	M 1.0

(NOAA's graph of recent flare activity: GOES-X-Ray-Flux)

From the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center, here are the probabilities of major solar flares and the predicted 10.7 cm Solar Flux for the next 3 days. NOAA updates this information daily.

Date	M-Flares	X-Flares	Solar Flux
Apr 27	75%	15%	145
Apr 28	55%	5%	135
Apr 29	35%	5%	130

Looking farther ahead, here is the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center forecast of 10.7 cm radio flux and maximum Planetary K-index (Kp) for the next 12 days. This data is updated by NOAA every Monday (last updated on April 22, 2024).

Date	Flux	Кр
Apr 27	170	4
Apr 28	165	3
Apr 29	160	3
Apr 30	155	2

Date	Flux	Кр
May 1	155	3
May 2	160	3
May 3	160	3
May 4	160	2

Date	Flux	Кр
May 5	160	3
May 6	160	3
May 7	165	3
May 8	170	2

## **Highs for Cycle 25**

Solar Flux: 234 on January 15, 2023. Sunspots: 283 on April 21, 2024.

#### **Popular Propagation web sites**

https://prop.kc2g.com/ (Excellent Maximum Usable Frequency map)

NOAA <a href="https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/">https://www.spaceweather.com/</a>
<a href="https://www.solarham.net/">https://www.solarham.net/</a>

https://dx.qsl.net/propagation/

# A Propagation Tutorial

The solar X-ray flux tracks solar activity and solar flares. Solar flux, which can vary from

as low as 50 to as high as 300, influences the level of ionization in the F2 region of the ionosphere, providing a very good prediction of HF DX conditions. The higher the solar flux, the better conditions will be for the higher HF frequencies and even 6 meters. However, the levels need to be maintained for some days to allow ionization in the F2 layer to build up. A solar flux of 150 results in good HF band conditions, while levels of 200 and up can provide great conditions.

Large X-ray flares on the sun can increase the ionization of the D layer of the ionosphere (a lower layer) on the sunlit side of the Earth, greatly attenuating or blocking HF radio transmissions for up to a half hour. Solar flares often produce Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) which, if Earth directed, can lead to geomagnetic storms. Some large flares are also accompanied by strong radio bursts that may interfere with other radio frequencies and cause problems for satellite communication and radio navigation (GPS).

The Planetary K-index is a measure of the magnitude of geomagnetic storms and is an excellent indicator of disturbances in the Earth's magnetic field. A level of 1 or 2 represents quiet geomagnetic conditions; a reading of 3 or 4 may cause some propagation deterioration; 5 and 6 are minor to moderate geomagnetic storms; and 7 to 9 are strong, severe, and extreme storm conditions. Strong geomagnetic storms can trigger Auroral displays and cause HF radio blackouts. Higher geomagnetic activity also has the adverse effect of lowering maximum usable frequencies, much like lower solar flux does.

For best conditions, the solar flux should be above 150 for a few days with the K index below 2. When these conditions are met, some good DX is likely!
-[Compiled from information on NOAA.gov and other sources]

# **Contest Calendar**

# **Weekly Contests**

Contest	Start UTC		End	Web Site	
K1USN Slow Speed Test	Monday	0000Z	0100Z	Rules	
	Monday	1300Z	1400Z		
ICWC Medium Speed Test	Monday	1900Z	2000Z	<u>Rules</u>	
	Tuesday	0300Z	0400Z		
	Wednesday	1300Z	1400Z		
CWons Tost (CWT)	Wednesday	1900Z	2000Z	Dulos	
CWops Test (CWT)	Thursday	0300Z	0400Z	<u>Rules</u>	
	Thursday	0700Z	0800Z		
Weekly RTTY Test	Friday	0145Z	0215Z	Rules	
NCCC CW Sprint (NS)	Friday	0230Z	0300Z	Rules	

Note: Start Days are in UTC, e.g. Monday at 0000 UTC is Sunday at 7:00 PM in the Central Daylight Saving Time zone, or Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Central Standard Time zone.

## **Full Calendar**

Contest	Start		End		Web Site
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, Digital	Apr 27	0001Z	Apr 28	2359Z	Rules
SP DX RTTY Contest	Apr 27	1200Z	Apr 28	1200Z	Rules
Helvetia Contest	Apr 27	1300Z	Apr 28	1259Z	Rules
Florida QSO Party	Apr 27	1600Z	Apr 28	2159Z	Rules
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW	May 4	0001Z	May 5	2359Z	Rules
7th Call Area QSO Party	May 4	1300Z	May 5	0700Z	Rules
Indiana QSO Party	May 4	1600Z	May 5	0400Z	<u>Rules</u>
Delaware QSO Party	May 4	1700Z	May 5	2359Z	Rules
New England QSO Party	May 4	2000Z	May 5	2400Z	Rules
CQ-M International DX Contest	May 11	1200Z	May 12	1159Z	Rules
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW	May 18	1200Z	May 19	1200Z	Rules
Arkansas QSO Party	May 18	1400Z	May 19	0200Z	Rules
Baltic Contest	May 18	2100Z	May 19	0200Z	Rules
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	May 25	0000Z	May 26	2400Z	Rules
Kentucky QSO Party	Jun 1	1300Z	Jun 2	0100Z	Rules
ARRL Inter. Digital Contest	Jun 1	1800Z	Jun 2	2400Z	Rules
ARRL June VHF Contest	Jun 8	1800Z	Jun 10	0300Z	Rules
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Jun 15	1500Z	Jun 16	1500Z	Rules
West Virginia QSO Party	Jun 15	1600Z	Jun 16	0400Z	Rules
ARRL Kids Day	Jun 15	1800Z	Jun 15	2359Z	Rules
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB	Jun 22	1200Z	Jun 23	1200Z	Rules
Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest	Jun 22	1200Z	Jun 23	1200Z	Rules
ARRL Field Day	Jun 22	1800Z	Jun 23	2100Z	Rules
RAC Canada Day Contest	Jul 1	0000Z	Jul 1	2359Z	Rules
IARU HF World Championship	Jul 13	1200Z	Jul 14	1200Z	Rules
CQ Worldwide VHF Contest	Jul 20	1800Z	Jul 21	2100Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, RTTY	Jul 20	1800Z	Jul 21	0559Z	Rules
RSGB IOTA Contest	Jul 27	1200Z	Jul 28	1200Z	Rules
Alabama QSO Party	Jul 27	1500Z	Jul 28	0300Z	Rules

<sup>-[</sup>Contest data courtesy of the <u>WA7BNM Contest Calendar</u>]

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